

FAMOUS GUNSTON HALL, IN FAIRFAX, TO BECOME HOME OF TOM WATSON

The Old Home and Burial Place of George Mason Said to Have Been Bought By the Well Known Georgian—History of This Interesting Estate.

(Special Correspondence of The Times-Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 7.—Tom Watson, of Georgia and New York, has bought Gunston Hall, in Fairfax county, Virginia. Gunston Hall was the home, and is the burial place, of George Mason, one of the republic's founders. He was the friend, neighbor and counselor of George Washington. He was an inspiration to Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Patrick Henry.

Gunston Hall is on a ridge commanding a view of the Potomac River, five miles below Mount Vernon. Built between 1755 and 1758, it is a fine example of colonial architecture. It was probably without equal in that part of Virginia at the time of its building, and it is admirably preserved. It is eighty feet long by forty wide, and is built of bricks twice the size of those made in the present day, and they are put together with

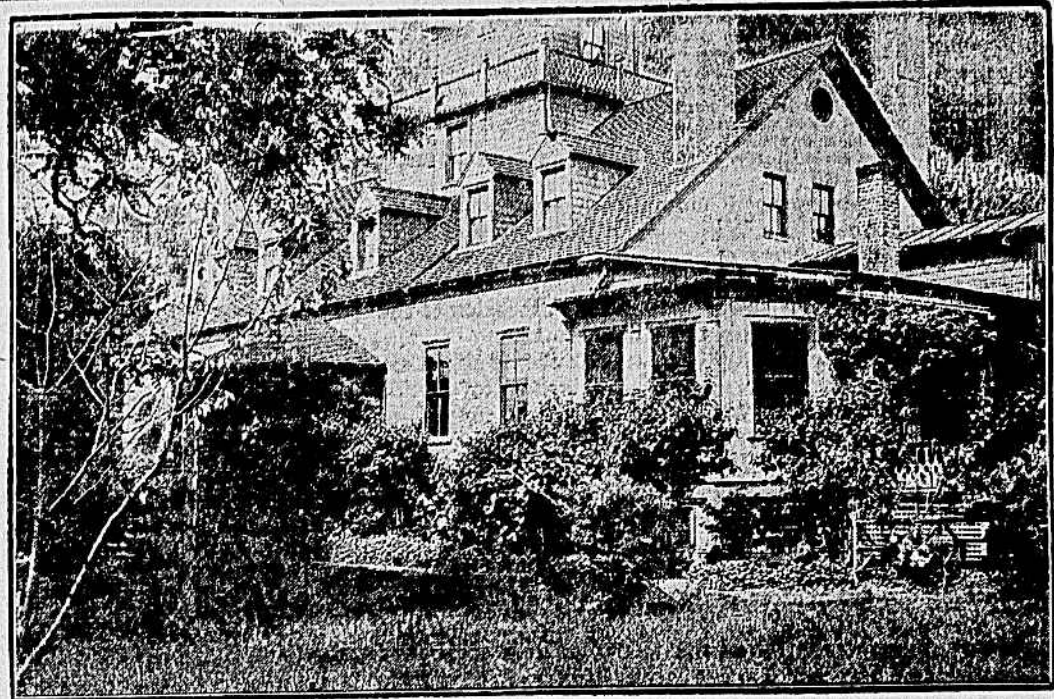
ing the contention that the British Parliament had no right to levy taxes on the American colonies. This tract had a wide vogue in pre-revolutionary times. Mason and Washington attended the meeting of citizens held at Fairfax Court-house, Va., in July 1774. Washington was moderator of the meeting. Mason presented twenty-four resolutions in advocacy of non-intercourse with the mother country. These resolutions were adopted and were also adopted by the Virginia Convention assembled at Williamsburg in August, 1774. It was that body which elected Peyton Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, George Washington, Patrick Henry, Richard Bland, Benjamin Harrison and Edmund Pendleton delegates to the First Continental Congress, and that congress substantially adopted the Mason resolutions.

Mason after once declining election and

Gunston Hall was standing a few years ago, and was owned by the Gifford family, the same Gifford family who were royalists with Mason and Powke and who owned Roseland near Gunston where Charles II. lay in concealment after the battle of Worcester.

Mason and Powke settled in the Northern Neck of Virginia, the same part of the State in which the Washingtons settled, but Powke later removed to Charles county, Maryland. George Mason the second married Mary Powke, daughter of Gerard Powke. They built a house in Maryland which they called Gunston Hall, in memory of the English Gunston. These people were the grandparents of George Mason, of Gunston Hall, who was George Mason the fourth. In 1759 this man was married to Anne Elbeck, of Mattawoman, Maryland. Soon after his marriage, he began the erection of Gunston Hall, Va., which he named in memory of the Powke place in Staffordshire, and his grandparents' place in Maryland.

He died at Gunston in 1792. The family burying ground is a few



GUNSTON HALL.

tatives against Eppa Hunton, but being a Republican, was beaten. Daniels and President Grant were great friends, and during Grant's administration Daniels really controlled the patronage of Virginia. Gunston Hall passed to Joseph Specht, of St. Louis, and by him was completely restored. He died three years ago; the place continued in possession of his heirs, and in charge of an overseer.

George Mason was the Sage of Gunston. It was he who after conference the most durable mortar made of crushed oyster shells and so hard as to be proof against hammer or pick.

On the north front of the house there is a square porch built of brick and stone, and supported by four Doric pillars. On the south, or river, front of the house is a smaller porch, pentagonal in shape. Here it was that Mason and Washington so often played at draughts. To the right of the entrance on the north front is the room which was occupied by Jefferson on his frequent visits to Mason.

Several years after the Civil War Gunston Hall, in dilapidation, was acquired by Colonel Edward Daniels and partially restored during his ownership. Colonel Daniels came to Virginia from the Northwest. He edited the Richmond Journal, and once ran for the House of Representatives and correspondence with Washington, drew up the non-importation resolutions offered by Washington in, and adopted by the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1775. One of these resolutions placed the embargo on no slaves imported after November 1, 1775.

Mason was the author of a tract styled "Extracts from Virginia Charters and Some Remarks Upon Them," support-

once refusing to serve after election to the Continental Congress, sat in the Constitutional Convention of 1787. In that great body he opposed slavery, saying "It was a source of national weakness and demoralization." He advocated the direct election of the President by the people for a term of seven years with ineligibility for re-election. He opposed the requirement of a property qualification for voters and also opposed the plan to make slaves equal to freemen as a basis for representation. He refused to sign the Constitution after the required number of States had already formally approved the Constitution.

In the Virginia convention to ratify the Constitution Mason led the opposition, and standing by him were Patrick Henry, James Monroe, Benjamin Harrison and William Grayson.

The leaders for ratification were John Marshall, Edmund Randolph, Richard Henry Lee, George Washington and James Madison, yet so great was Mason's influence that in 1788 votes the majority for ratification was only 10, and this majority was obtained only after the ratification of the Constitution.

The first American Mason was George Mason, great-grandfather of Mason, of Gunston Hall. He was commander of a troop of horse at Worcester, where he fought under the banner of the House of Stuart. After the battle he occupied the house of Warwickshire and there are Mason memorials in the Church of the Holy Trinity at Stratford-Avon. Colonel George Mason the first, though was not a Warwickshire man, but came from Staffordshire. One of his fellow royalists was Gerard Powke, son of Roger Powke, of Brewood Hall, and Gunston, a hamlet in Staffordshire. The original

roads from the house.

Mason's tomb is the pyramidal piece of granite shown in the picture, and is inscribed:

George Mason,
Author of the Bill of Rights and
First Constitution of Virginia,
1726-1792.

WILLIAM AND MARY.

Grand Old Institution Has a Splendid Opening.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., October 7.—William and Mary College has had one of the most promising openings in its history. This session, two hundred and fifteen students have matriculated, and new students are coming in daily. The number is expected to reach two hundred and twenty-five or thirty. In athletics, too, the opening of the session has been good. In fact, it is said that the college has one of the finest football teams it has ever had, and the hopes of the students are rising high. Great activity is seen daily among the football men. Great enthusiasm has been aroused among the students and the faculty, and crowds are out each evening watching the men practicing. William and Mary has the same trainers that she had last year, Mr. J. Merrill Blanchard, of Bowdoin College, Maine. Mr. James A. Carson is manager, and M. H. Blanchard, captain. The William and Mary boys have already won one game over Hampton Athletic Association by a score of 12 to 0. Strenuous efforts are being made in preparation for the opening game of the college series, which will occur in Richmond October 11th, against Richmond College.

BARBECUE AND BALL.

A Grand Old Time Expected in Charles City.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PROVIDENCE FORGE, VA., Oct. 7.—The much-talked-of barbecue, which is booked to take place here October 12, will terminate that night in a ball at the pavilion. In case the night should be too cool for outdoor amusements with Jack Frost lingering around, a neighboring farm-house has been engaged where the devotees of terpsichore can retire to and spend the night in their own pleasure. The scheme in this vicinity have all opened with full attendance. The school across the river, the highest in the county, by Miss Adams, of Charles City, while the one here will be conducted by Miss Curtis, of Warwickshire.

Mrs. Mary Lee has engaged a governess from Richmond for the coming school year.

Mrs. Rosa Valentine and little daughter, Joan, who have been summering at Kilmarnock, left for Richmond a few days since. They will go south in a few days to spend the winter at Mrs. Valentine's health is too delicate for the cold climate.

HANDLE MILLIONS.

Banks That Thrive in Apparent Violation of Law.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, October 7.—That private banks, operated for the most part by foreign born citizens for the receipt of deposits of their respective countrymen and receiving annually millions of dollars, for which not one cent is paid as interest, have continued to thrive in this city in alleged direct violation of the law of the State, has been brought to the attention of P. D. Kilburn, State Superintendent of Banks. Those persons, who, conducting a similar business, have deposited the amount required by law to establish themselves as legitimate banking houses are much concerned at the result.

Starting in a small way, the majority on the east side of the city, many of these so-called "banks" have now assumed a prominence in the business world that assures them of a patronage, the envy of more pretentious institutions, and formerly displaying their calling in the language of their patrons they have now dropped the mother tongue and exhibit signs over their doorways in which the English word "bank" is the most prominent feature.

This is a violation of the laws of the State, other institutions allege. An act which became a part of the penal code on April 29, 1904, makes it a misdemeanor to use the title of "bank," except by a corporation that has complied with all the provisions of the State banking laws, one of which is the depositing of \$100,000 with the treasurer of

You
Furnish
the Girl;
We'll
Furnish
the
House.

Pettit and Company

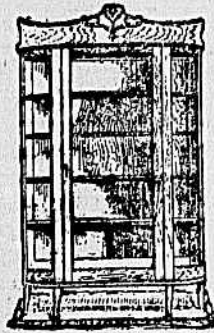
FOUSHEE and BROAD STS

The
Little
-At a
Time
Store.

Confidence Begets Confidence. You Trust Us and We'll Trust You.

The storekeeper who will refuse you credit because you do not drive up to his establishment in a vehicle, or because you fail to satisfy him of a fat bank account, will go a step further than that. He will tell you that the store that credits you is charging you for such accommodations. Tell him—tell him in words so plain that there can be no misunderstanding, that credit is as free as the air you breathe at Pettit & Company's, and that Pettit & Company's prices are an average 25 per cent. lower. Just make a little side wager, and we'll back you for any amount.

.. CREDIT IS YOUR PURSE; USE IT FREELY..

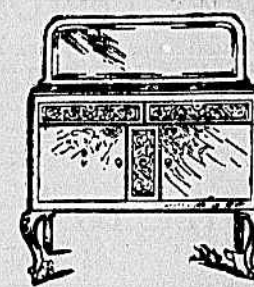


An Elegant
Sideboard.

\$37.50

It is massive, piano finish, quarter sawed, finely flaked, golden oak. Not another store in Richmond can, will or dare duplicate it under \$50.00.

\$14.50 This very pretty Quartered Oak China Closet, has bent glass ends and highly polished; worth \$20.00.



Handsome Quartered Oak Buffet, highly polished, double mirror top, French legs, deep drawers and cupboard; worth \$32.00. Under selling price **\$23.50**

Autumn Tailored Fashions Style With Economy.

In the unrivalled offerings of the choicest and most authoritative new designs in Fall Tailored Costumes, Coats, Waists and Skirts at this always interesting store.

Here is given to you to-morrow one of the real opportunities of the season. Every department is replete with beautifully tailored apparel, priced to quickly convince you of the advantage in buying here.

Our Pay Later Plan

takes care of your payments in a most satisfying way, and you need not postpone your Fall purchases because you haven't the money. That's our business—we'll arrange the payment to suit your convenience.

Men's Suits.

Our Men's Clothing Department affords you the selection of a suit, tailored by skilled men. We install more actual workmanship into the tailoring of our garments than other makers. For this week we will show several nifty styles in the popular 4-button sack models, including the new waist and color lines, an actual \$20 value, **\$15.00**

Ladies' Coats.

Smartest of new autumn materials and colorings are embodied in our Ladies' Coats, among which we feature the Imperial Back Coat, in the many tan shades and black, Cheviot and Kersey; beautifully trimmed and finished in latest fashions; value, \$19.00, **\$12.50**

Ladies' Coat Suits.

Characterized by the charm of absolute newness, different in style from anything heretofore shown in our Ladies' Coat Suit—in fine quality Broadcloth and Venetian. The long, graceful coat lined with silk or satin, with or without strapped seams; value, \$25.00, **\$17.98**

Top Coats.

The constant adding of new styles makes our Top Coat showing of more than ordinary interest. The fall fashions include all that is new in the popular covert cloth. This very swaggy coat, made in the new 32 length, lined with silk Venetian, we offer for this week, a regular \$15.00 value, at..... **\$12.50**

Ladies' Coats.

There's satisfaction in making your selection from a stock that's just brimful of everything new—an elegant assortment of light-fitting coats, in the latest designs—41 inch strapped seams, 46 inches long; in several new covert shades. A \$15.00 value for Monday only..... **\$9.50**

Ladies' Coat Suits.

There's correctness and originality of designs and materials in our several distinct models of Ladies' Coat Suits. The new patterns of cheviot will appeal to your taste immensely—in the long pleated coat styles, with latest cut skirt; value, \$18.00, **\$12.48**

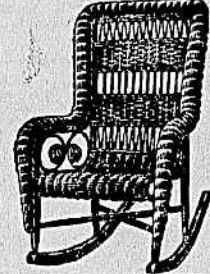
Select What You Want.
... Have It Charged.

\$1.98

While they last—A LIMITED QUANTITY ONLY.

This excellent rocker can't

be duplicated for \$4.00.



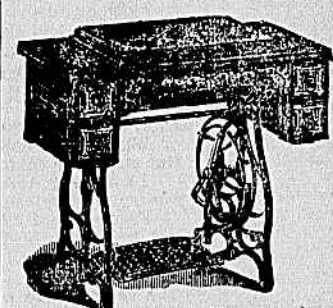
Get a Coupon Book—It's Worth \$5.00 to You.

Ask for a coupon book Monday. Distribute the ten coupons among your friends and save the cover of the book. When all the coupons are turned in for the purchase of goods at this store, you will be notified and will receive \$5.00 in cash, or a premium worth \$5.00. Each coupon is good for \$1.00 in cash when presented at time of purchase of \$20.00 worth of goods at this store.

Carpets and Rugs.

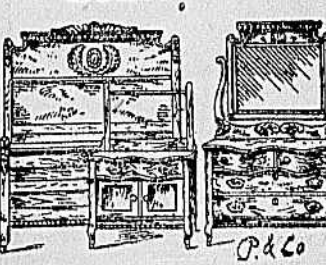
In this special bargain we offer 20 different patterns of excellent velvet Carpets, suitable for parlor, library, bedroom and hall and stairs at an unheard-of price for such goods. We picked up this lot from one of the big mills at a low price, and now share the bargain with you. Regular \$14.00 grade for..... **95c**
Fine All-Linen Ingrain Carpet, in fast colors and new patterns; worth 45c yd.; underselling price **29c**
New wool texture Ingrain Carpets; choice patterns; worth 75c yd.; underselling price..... **59c**
Fine Wool-faced Brussels Carpets; for any room or hall and stairs; worth \$1 yd.; underselling price..... **75c**
6 ft. x 9 ft. Ingrain Rugs; worth \$5.50; underselling price..... **\$3.98**
6 ft. x 12 ft. Ingrain Rugs; worth \$10; underselling price..... **\$6.95**
Pro - Brussels Rugs; room size; worth \$14.00; underselling price..... **\$10.50**
Room size Brussels Rugs; worth \$22; underselling price..... **\$16.75**
Extra quality Axminster Rugs; worth \$35.00; underselling price..... **\$26.50**

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An opportunity every woman should profit by. We offer this special as an introduction to our big line of high-grade sewing machines. It's a drop-head machine of thoroughly reliable make—up-to-date in every particular and fully guaranteed for ten years. Complete set of all-nickel attachments; \$1.00 cash and 50 cents weekly; price..... **\$19.75**

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Rich and handsome novelties from Grand Rapids' best cabinet makers; styles for which we have the exclusive agency in Richmond.

\$37.50 for polished Quarter-sawed Oak Bedroom Suit, with large swell front dresser, a handsome pattern plate French mirror; a suit that we'll warrant equals any and surpasses many offered in competition at \$50.00.

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NIGHT TRAINS TO ASHLAND DURING RICHMOND HORSE SHOW—R. F. & P. P. R. R.

Trains will leave Elba Station, Richmond, for Ashland and intermediate points, 11:45 o'clock each night, October 10th to 14th inclusive. All tickets, including commutation forms, will be accepted for passage without additional charge as usual.

W. P. TAYLOR, Traffic Manager

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